

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PEKING 00116 01 OF 02 170941Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
-----170948Z 063513 /20

O R 170920Z JAN 77

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7095

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 PEKING 0116

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CH, US

SUBJ: DAVID ROCKEFELLER CALL ON LI HSIEN-NIEN

REF: PEKING 0107

1. DAVID ROCKEFELLER AND HIS PARTY, ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR GATES AND USLO OFFICER THOMAS, CALLED ON VICE PREMIER LI HSIEN-NIEN LATE IN THE AFTERNOON OF JANUARY 15. FOREIGN MINISTER HUANG HUA AND VICE FOREIGN MINITER WANG HAI-JUNG WERE ALSO PRESENT. PRIOR TO THE MEETING, MME. KANG INFORMED THE ROCKEFELLER PARTY THAT LI'S RESPONSIBILITTIES AS VICE PREMIER NOW INCLUDE FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

2. ROCKEFELLER OPENED BY DEVLIVERING THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER TO CHAIRMAN HUA: PRESIDENT CARTER HAS ASKED ME TO DELIVER HIS PERSONAL GREETINGS TO CHAIRMAN HUA. IN PARTICULAR, HE HAS ASKED ME TO MAKE CLEAR THE IMPORTANCE HE ATTACHES TO OUR RELATIONS IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT AS WELL AS TO THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PEKING 00116 01 OF 02 170941Z

IMPROVEMENT OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS. PRESIDENT CARTER LOOKS FORWARD TO ESTABLISHING A DIALOGUE WITH CHAIRMAN HUA ON THE ISSUES BEFORE US. ROCKEFELLER ADDED THAT BEFORE HIS TRIP HE HAD TALKED WTH SECRETARY-DESIGNATE VANCE WHO ASKED HIM TO SAY THAT HE WAS INTERESTED IN PAYING A VISIT TO CHINA IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE. ROCKEFELLER OFFERED TO CONVEY

ANY MESSAGES LI HAD FOR PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER OR SECRETARY-DESIGNATE VANCE.

3. LI ASKED ROCKEFELLER TO CONVEY CHAIRMAN HUA'S GREETINGS TO PRESIDENT CARTER. LATER IN THE CONVERSATION, HE NOTED THAT SECRETARY VANCE'S STATEMENT BEFORE THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE OF HIS WISH TO DEVELOP SINO-AMERICAN RELATIONS ON THE BASIS OF THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE WAS "VERY GOOD." HE ASKED ROCKEFELLER TO TELL PRESIDENT CARTER AND SECRETARY VANCE THAT THE PRC IS DETERMINED TO CARRY OUT CHAIRMAN MAO'S LINE IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WHICH INCLUDES DEVELOPING RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES ON THE BASIS OF THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE.

4. LI REITERATED THE THREE CHINESE CONDITIONS FOR NORMALIZATION, AND SAID THAT TAIWAN WAS "ENTIRELY AN INTERNAL MATTER WHICH BROOKS NO INTERFERENCE." COMMENTING ON THE ARTICLE OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THEORETICAL STUDY GROUP IN THE PEOPLE'S DAILY FOR JANUARY 11, HE SAID THAT THE ARTICLE WAS MERELY A HISTORICAL COMMENT ON CHOU EN-LAI'S GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO PRC FOREIGN RELATIONS, AND IT SAID THAT WITH RESPECT TO THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE US AND THE PRC, THE PRC WANTED A SETTLEMENT BY PEACEFUL MEANS. LI SAID THIS WAS NOT A STATEMENT ON THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PRC AND CHIANG KAI-SHEK. "HOW WE SETTLE THE DISPUTE BETWEEN OURSELVES AND CHIANG CHING-KUO IS ENTIRELY OUR AFFAIR." HE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PEKING 00116 01 OF 02 170941Z

DISMISSED PRESS AND DIPLOMATIC SPECULATION TO THE CONTRARY.

5. LI WAS NOT VERY ENCOURAGING ABOUT SINO-US TRADE. IN ANSWER TO ROCKEFELLER'S QUESTION HE SPECIFICALLY STATED THAT THE PRC DOES NOT APPROVE OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT AND JOINT ENTERPRISES IN CHINA. HE SAID THAT CHINESE PURCHASES OF COMPLETE PLANTS FROM THE US DEPENDED ON PRC AVAILABILITY OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE, AND IMPLIED THAT LACK OF NORMALIZATION IS A BARRIER TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE. HE DID SAY, HOWEVER,

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PEKING 00116 02 OF 02 170946Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
-----170949Z 063540 /20

O R 170920Z JAN 77

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7096

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 PEKING 0116

EXDIS

THAT "WE CAN TALK ABOUT" INCREASING VISITS BETWEEN
THE NCUSCT AND THE CCPIT.

6. IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS, LI STRESSED COMMON OPPOSITION
TO THE USSR AS THE STRONGEST BOND BETWEEN THE US AND
CHINA. HE DESCRIBED THE US POSITION WITH RESPECT TO
THE USSR AS ESSENTIALLY DEFENSIVE, AND CRITICIZED DIS-
ARMAMENT AND DETENTE AS LULLING THE US INTO A FALSE
SENSE OF SECURITY AND LOSS OF VIGILANCE. HE NOTED THAT
IN TEN YEARS OF DISARMAMENT, THE USSR HAD INCREASED
ITS ARMED FORCES FROM THREE TO 4.5 MILLION.

7. LI STATED PRC OPPOSITION TO THE STATIONING OF
TROOPS IN OTHER COUNTRIES, BUT POINTED OUT THAT THE
PRC HAD TO ACCEPT REALITIES BUT SOMETIMES FIRED
"EMPTY CANNONS" AT THE US FOR STATIONING TROOPS IN
JAPAN AND THE PHILIPPINES. HE SAID THAT FOR JAPAN
RELATIONS WITH THE US WERE OF THE GREATEST VALUE,
AND APPROVED OF JAPANESE DEFENSE FORCES.

8. IN RESPONSE TO A COMMENT ON WATERGATE BY ROCKEFELLER,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PEKING 00116 02 OF 02 170946Z

LI SAID THAT THE PRC PAID LITTLE ATTENTION TO WATERGATE
AND DID NOT KNOW WHAT IT WAS ABOUT. HE ADDED THAT THE
PRC INVITED NIXON TO CHINA BECAUSE HE OPENED RELATIONS
WITH CHINA.

9. ROCKEFELLER ASKED LI TO EXPLAIN THE GANG OF FOUR
EPISODE. LI REPLIED THAT THE GANG HAS ATTEMPTED TO
URURP POWER AND OVERTHROW HUA KUO-FENG, WHOM CHAIRMAN

MAO HAD PERSONALLY CHOSEN
AS HIS SUCCESSOR. HE SAID
MAO WAS AWARE OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE GANG BUT DELAYED ACTION AND THEN BECAME TOO ILL TO MOVE. LI STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF MAO'S ADDING "FIRST" BEFORE HUA'S TITLE OF VICE PREMIER IN HIS OWN HAND. HE EVEN NOTED THERE HAD NEVER BEFORE BEEN A FIRST VICE PREMIER. HE SAID THAT "WE HAVE HAD TWO GREAT VICTORIES; THE SELECTION OF HUA KUO-FENG AS CHAIRMAN AND THE SMASHING OF THE GANG OF FOUR." IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION ON CHIANG CHING'S MEMBERSHIP IN THE GANG, LI REPLIED THAT IT WAS A QUESTION OF CLASS STRUGGLE. LI SAID THAT THE PEOPLE (EVEN IN SHANGHAI, WERE THE GANG OF FOUR HAD WORKED FOR TEN YEARS TO ESTABLISH Q BASE) HAD REJOICED WHEN HUA "TOOK ADAMANT MEASURES."

10. COMMENT: LI WAS WELL BRIEFED, PARTICULARLY ON THE LUNCHEON MEETING THE PREVIOUS DAY WITH HUANG HUA, AND CONDUCTED THE ENTIRE CHINESE SIDE OF THE CONVERSATION WITH ONLY AN OCCASIONAL COMMENT FROM THE OTHER CHINESE. ALTHOUGH HE WAS GOOD-HUMORED, THERE WAS AN EDGE ON SOME OF HIS COMMENTS WHICH MAY HAVE SHOWN AN OLD COMMUNIST'S AWARENESS THAT HE WAS TALKING TO A PARTICULARLY WELL-KNOWN CAPITALIST. LI MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE PRC HAS NOT RELAXED ITS POSITION ON TAIWAN, AND THAT FOR THE TIME BEING, IT CONSIDERS OUR COMMON POSITION ON THE USSR AS THE CLOSEST TIE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PEKING 00116 02 OF 02 170946Z

BETWEEN THE US AND CHINA.
GATES

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PEKING00116
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770016-0709
Format: TEL
From: PEKING
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770145/aaaabnmt.tel
Line Count: 206
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 30cbf2d8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 PEKING 107
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3581057
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DAVID ROCKEFELLER CALL ON LI HSIEN-NIEN
TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, CH, US, (LI HSIEN-NIEN), (CARTER, JIMMY), (ROCKEFELLER, DAVID), (HUA KUO-FENG)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/30cbf2d8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009